



Department of Psychology
Psychology 475 (L01) – Behavioural Pharmacology
Fall 2009

Instructor:	Brian H. Bland	Lecture Location:	SH288
Phone:	(403) 220-4948	Lecture Days/Time:	MWF 11:00-11:50
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Office:	Admin 032		
Office Hours:	By Appointment		

Course Description and Goals

The behavioural effects of drugs specifically employed to affect the nervous system, as seen in the treatment of mental disorders, behavioural disorders, and other pathological conditions such as Parkinson's disease, and Schizophrenia. Neuro-pharmacologic agents will be discussed as they relate to the biochemistry and physiology of neurotransmitters.

Prerequisites

Prerequisites: Psychology 371 or 375, or consent of the Department.

Required Text

Drugs and Human Behaviour, David M. Grilly (2006) 5th Ed. Allyn and Bacon. Available at the bookstore.

Evaluation

Mid-term Exam (30%). Multiple-choice and short-essay questions. Part 1 of lectures and Chapters 1 to 5.

Final Exam (40%). Multiple-choice and short-answer essay questions. Part 2 of lectures and Chapters 6, 7, 12, and 14 (Parkinson's Disease).

Essay (30%). Topic of your choice in Behavioural Neuroscience. Length should be 10-12 double-spaced pages in a scientific review format (e.g. Brain Research Reviews). Due November 23. Emailed assignments will not be accepted. Late assignments will be assessed a penalty of 10% per day (including weekends).

Grading Scale

A+	96-100%	B+	80-84%	C+	67-71%	D+	54-58%
A	90-95%	B	76-79%	C	63-66%	D	50-53%
A-	85-89%	B-	72-75%	C-	59-62%	F	0-49%

As stated in the University Calendar, it is at the instructor's discretion to round off either upward or downward to determine a final grade when the average of term work and final examinations is between two letter grades. To determine final letter grades, final percentage

grades will be rounded up or down to the nearest whole percentage (e.g., 89.5% will be rounded up to 90% = A but 89.4% will be rounded down to 89% = A-).

Tentative Lecture Schedule

Date	Topic/Activity/Readings/Due Date (revise and add columns as necessary)
Sept 9-21	Part 1. Electrical properties of neurons A. Axonal physiology (the membrane potential and the action potential)
Sept 18	<i>Last day to drop a course with no W grade and tuition refund.</i>
Sept 22	<i>Last day for registration/change of registration.</i>
Sept 23-Oct 5	B.The synapse
Oct 7 -18	C.Neurotransmitters and neuromodulators
Oct 12	Thanksgiving Day. University closed.
Oct 21	Mid Term Exam
Oct 23-Nov 16	Part 2. Disorders of chemical transmission A. Parkinson's disease
Nov 18-Dec 7	B. Schizophrenia
Nov 11-15	Reading Days. No lectures.
Nov 23	Essay Due
Dec 7	Last day to participate in research and allocate research credits
Dec 8	Fall Session Lectures end. Last day to withdraw
Dec 11-21	Final exams (scheduled by the Registrar)
Dec 25-31	Holiday Observance. Session Break. University closed.

Reappraisal of Grades

A student who feels that a piece of graded term work (e.g., term paper, essay, test) has been unfairly graded, may have the work re-graded as follows. The student shall discuss the work with the instructor within 15 days of being notified about the mark or of the item's return to the class. If not satisfied, the student shall immediately take the matter to the Head of the department offering the course, who will arrange for a reassessment of the work within the next 15 days. The reappraisal of term work may cause the grade to be raised, lowered, or to remain the same. If the student is not satisfied with the decision and wishes to appeal, the student shall address a letter of appeal to the Dean of the faculty offering the course within 15 days of the unfavourable decision. In the letter, the student must clearly and fully state the decision being appealed, the grounds for appeal, and the remedies being sought, along with any special circumstances that warrant an appeal of the reappraisal. The student should include as much written documentation as possible.

Plagiarism and Other Academic Misconduct

Intellectual honesty is the cornerstone of the development and acquisition of knowledge and requires that the contribution of others be acknowledged. Consequently, plagiarism or cheating on any assignment is regarded as an extremely serious academic offense. Plagiarism involves

submitting or presenting work in a course as if it were the student's own work done expressly for that particular course when, in fact, it is not. Students should examine sections of the University Calendar that present a Statement of Intellectual honesty and definitions and penalties associated with Plagiarism/Cheating/Other Academic Misconduct.

Academic Accommodation

It is the student's responsibility to request academic accommodations. If you are a student with a documented disability who may require academic accommodation and have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre, please contact their office at 220-8237. Students who have not registered with the Disability Resource Centre are not eligible for formal academic accommodation. You are also required to discuss your needs with your instructor no later than 14 days after the start of this course.

Absence From A Test/Exam

Makeup tests/exams are NOT an option without an official University medical excuse (see the University Calendar). A completed Physician/Counselor Statement will be required to confirm absence from a test/exam for health reasons; the student will be required to pay any cost associated with this Statement. Students who miss a test/exam have 48 hours to contact the instructor and to schedule a makeup test/exam. Students who do not schedule a makeup test/exam with the instructor within this 48-hour period forfeit the right to a makeup test/exam. At the instructor's discretion, a makeup test/exam may differ significantly (in form and/or content) from a regularly scheduled test/exam. Except in extenuating circumstances (documented by an official University medical excuse), a makeup test/exam must be written within 2 weeks of the missed test/exam.

Course Credits for Research Participation (Max 2% of final grade)

Students in most psychology courses are eligible to participate in Departmentally-approved research and earn credits toward their final grades. A maximum of two credits (2%) per course, including this course, may be applied to an individual's final grade. **To get 2%** added to the final grade, you have to acquire **a total of 2 bonus credits** towards the course. The demand for timeslots may exceed the supply in a given term. Thus, students are not guaranteed that there will be enough studies available to them to meet their credit requirements. Students should seek studies early in the term and should frequently check for open timeslots. Students can create an account and participate in Departmentally-approved research studies at <http://ucalgary.sona-systems.com>. The last day to participate in studies and to assign or reassign earned credits to courses is **Dec 7th, 2009**.

Student Organizations

Psychology students may wish to join the Psychology Undergraduate Students' Association (PSYCHS). They are located in Administration 170 and may be contacted at 220-5567.

Student Union VP Academic: Phone: 220-3911 suvpaca@ucalgary.ca
Student Union Faculty Rep.: Phone: 220-3913 socialscirep@su.ucalgary.ca

Important Dates

The last day to drop this course and **still receive a fee refund** is **Sep 18th, 2009**. The last day to withdraw from this course is August **Dec 8th, 2009**.